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- (c) substantially separating the support and bound probe-target complex from the sample;
- (d) contacting the support and bound probe-target complex with a second medium;
- (e) releasing the probe-target complex into the second medium;
- (f) substantially separating the support from the second medium; and
- (g) amplifying the target polynucleotide.

54. A method for detecting a target polynucleotide contained in a sample comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting the sample with reagent comprising a first nucleic acid probe which binds to the target to form a probe-target complex;
- (b) contacting the sample with a support which binds to the first nucleic acid probe of the probe-target complex;
- (c) substantially separating the support and bound probe-target complex from the sample;
- (d) contacting the support and bound probe-target complex with a second medium;
- (e) releasing the probe-target complex into the second medium;
- (f) substantially separating the support from the second medium;
- (g) amplifying the target polynucleotide; and
- (h) detecting the presence of the amplified target polynucleotide.

REMARKS

Status of the Application:

At present, claims 25-50 are under consideration in the application. All claims stand rejected under 35 USC § 112 and 35 USC § 103 by an office action mailed June 20, 1996.